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Agriculture, Horticulture, Live Stock and Rural Economy,

THE OLDEST AGRICULTURAL JOURNAL IN MARYLAND, AND FOR TEN YEARS THE ONLY ONE.

AND NEW FARM.

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No. 10.

NEVER LOSE HOPE.

Never lose hope in the day-time,
Never lose hope at night;
Bear all your troubles bravely,
And then all will be right.

God will never forsake you,
Though the day seems long;
He will guide you through the trouble,
So try and let nothing go wrong.

When you think He has forgot you,
Something is sure to turn up;
So bear all your troubles bravely,
And never—no never—lose hope.
—*Harpers Young People.*

PACKAGES.

We would strive to impress upon the minds of all our readers the importance of this subject. Success or failure often depends upon the appearance of an article when it reaches the market. If put up in a neat, attractive style, it is at once sought by the purchaser; but if it is presented in a careless, slovenly manner, no one is anxious to buy it. The difference in the price obtained will pay five or ten times over the extra trouble and expense of packing.

Take, for example, the article of butter. We are intimately acquainted with a large wholesale butter dealer and we know whereof we write. The butter which comes of a uniform color and quality, neatly formed in attractive shape for handling, of proper size and of full weight, carefully protected from all bad surroundings while in transit by almost air-tight cases, and which brings a pleasurable sensation when the eye first rests upon it, will easily command double the price of that which comes in unshapely balls of various sizes, of sundry colors, and exposed to surrounding taints during its passage and to all manner of pollution in handling. One of the secrets of the success of Oleomargarine was the fact that it came of uniform quality and color and in neat rolls of one or two pounds (heavy weight) nicely covered with clean attractive wrappings. When the consumer saw it he was ready to purchase it at once—of course, supposing it to be butter. This, however, is the lesson to be learned! Neat attractive methods of presenting the

article to the consumer. In the article of butter, the same quality, in a ball, rough from careless handling and exposure, will not bring as much by 10 cts. on the pound as if presented in a neat print, wrapped carefully and in perfect shape when lifted from the case. Then when it is considered what an amount of time is saved in retailing the print, the saving in clerk hire, the greasing of the scales, the convenience of carriage in the basket, the appearance when placed upon the table; all these things bring money to the farmer who prepares his packages of butter and conveys them properly to market.

It is the same in everything the farmer brings to market. It is especially exemplified in the berry season, and hundreds of dollars were lost the past summer by the careless manner in which strawberries, blackberries, raspberries, currants, cherries were brought to the purchasers. One half a cent added to the quart package to make it clean and neat, fresh and attractive would add 3 cts. or 4 cts. to the farmer's receipts. It would make all the difference between the "common" quotations and the price given for "extra fine."

In the packing of larger fruits the same importance belongs to the care, style and integrity given to the package. A barrel of apples should have several important characteristics: The apples should be only of one kind in the barrel, to commence with. When two or three or half a dozen kinds are mixed together in the barrel they are worth but little. They should be very nearly of the same size throughout. When all sizes are placed in the same barrel, the price of the fruit is gauged by the smallest apples, never by the largest ones. If all of about the same size the price can be regulated with no trouble and it is always on a generous scale. A barrel where the apples are all large brings a large price; while, if all are only medium size, the price is fully up

to the market standard, because the uniformity of size makes them attractive; even the small ones, being all of about the same size, sell rapidly at only a very slight reduction from market price. In the aggregate you get much better returns than in any other method of presenting them. Also, all specked, bruised, wormy apples should be carefully excluded, for these greatly injure the sale of your fruit both in the present and in the future. Lastly, they should be packed so that they will not move when handled, rolled, or allowed to drop from the drays to the city pavements.

We have taken these articles merely to illustrate the importance of care in the methods of presenting produce to the purchaser, and to show why some are so successful in obtaining high prices for their produce, while others are complaining of never getting even the lowest quotations which are given in the newspapers. It all depends upon the observance of a very few particulars; the little care and personal inspection which you give to the preparation of your goods for the market. No matter how excellent the quality, slovenliness in the mode of packing and presenting them will retard the sale, depress the prices, discourage the buyer, and disgust yourself in the returns. If the quality is only medium, the attractive, clean, thrifty presentation of the goods, will insure quick sales, good prices, satisfied buyers, and satisfaction for yourself and pleasure for your family.

Many farmers and gardeners have come money, because their goods have always come to market in apparently new cases, new baskets, perfectly clean and fresh boxes, all packages scrupulously neat; so that their patrons felt no necessity of asking as to the quality or cleanliness of the goods. Success is sure to follow the patient practice of this seemingly small item of attention and care.

DEER CREEK FARMERS' CLUB.

WHEAT GROWING AND BUYING
FERTILIZERS.

The Deer Creek Farmers' Club met last Saturday afternoon, at Jacob Shertzer's Hotel, Churchville, upon invitation of Mr. R. Harris Archer.

Mr. Wm. Webster was called to the chair, Mr. Jas. W. Hanna being the Secretary.

Besides the active members there were present Rev. C. D. Wilson, S. M. Lee, George J. Finney, Jas. H. Harkins and Jacob Shertzer.

The subject announced for discussion was as follows: "Under existing circumstances is a farmer justified in sowing his usual acreage of wheat and buying as large a quantity of fertilizers as heretofore?"

R. Harris Archer said that under the system of farming pursued here he would answer the question in the affirmative. The grain market is depressed, but we don't know what the price may be a year hence. In order to get grass we must fertilize for wheat and ought to put on as much as we did a year ago. If we can raise from 25 to 30 bushels of wheat to the acre it will pay even if the price is low. Mr. Archer thought the shortage in the wheat crop this year in this neighborhood, is due, in some degree, to the fact that it was not put in at the proper time or not put in properly. Some crops are good but most of the wheat is very poor in quality.

Wm. B. Hopkins remarked that he is inclined to follow his usual practice, although the crop was a failure this year, and will put in as much or a little more wheat than usual. The reason our wheat is not good is that some of it was not put in properly and was sowed late. One of his fields, sowed from the 20th to 25th of September, yielded 30 bushels to the acre.

Hargraves Spalding thought farmers

better follow their usual custom and put in as much wheat and use as much fertilizer as usual.

Thomas Lochary said that the fact that prices are low and the crop is poor this year, is no proof that they will be the same next year. We ought, he thought, to put in our usual amount of wheat and if possible use more fertilizers. He was of opinion that the fly does less injury to wheat that has been liberally fertilized than wheat on which but little has been applied. Too much pains cannot be taken with the wheat crop. Some wheat, last year, was two weeks later in coming up in some parts of his field than in others.

James Lee said that whether it is best to put in as much wheat or not, he finds that farmers generally are reducing their acreage. The same amount of corn ground will be planted but not more than one-half as much fallow ground will be plowed for wheat. He has followed wheat with wheat but thinks the plan wrong. We should plow down more vegetable matter, clover, for instance. In many places wheat is grown cheaper than it is in Harford. In Kent county as much can be produced with an application of South Carolina Rock alone as with the highest priced fertilizers. He is putting in his usual quantity of wheat.

Bennett H. Barnes believes in sowing the usual amount of wheat and in trying to raise more bushels to the acre. He had found kainit and salt very valuable fertilizers for wheat. He had never missed a crop of wheat when he used them. Last fall he sowed about the 23rd or 24th of September and his father from the 28th of September to the 15th of October, and his father had twice as large a yield as he had. Both crops were put in well. He always plows his stalk ground, which is red soil, rolls, drills the wheat and rolls it

again. Instead of decreasing his acreage of wheat he would put in the usual quantity, use a little more fertilizer and try it again.

Wm. D. Lee did not think it profitable to raise wheat at present prices. He can make more by pasturing his land than by plowing it for wheat. The first wheat he sowed last fall, about 16th of September, was the worst he had. His corn-ground wheat, sowed from 1st to 10th of October, was the best.

Geo. J. Finney said wheat don't pay but he is sowing a little because he don't know what else to do. If prices do not increase he will change his system of farming. This year he raised 18 bushels to the acre, and it netted him only 75 cts. per bushel. The only way to get a good crop of grass is to fertilize the wheat heavily.

R. John Rogers did not see how a farmer can afford to do without sowing wheat. He should not be discouraged by a failure in the crop and low prices this year. It would be bad policy to fertilize less liberally, but we had better try to make a crop, if possible, by using more fertilizers. Some poor crops this year may be attributed to bad farming, but the general failure was from causes beyond the control of the farmer. He had obtained as good results in raising wheat with South Carolina Rock as with bone.

Jas. W. Hanna said it is necessary to sow wheat in order to get land back in grass. The price is low and there is very little profit in it but we should sow as much as we need and fertilize heavily. It is always best to prepare the ground well and fertilize liberally. He considers from 500 to 600 lbs. of bone and phosphate per acre a good dressing, and would prefer to sow one-half of it broadcast and drill the remainder in with the wheat.

S. M. Lee said that if a farmer is

plowing up his land and sowing wheat with a view to profit from the crop, after deducting expenses, it might possibly be necessary to curtail the crop a little. But in growing wheat in a general course of farming, a farmer should, if possible, hold a steady hand and go on as usual. On many farms too much wheat is sowed for their size, but we must sow a certain amount. He thought the poor quality of wheat this year is due more to climatic influences than to bad farming. He had known a few days' difference in sowing to make a material difference in two crops of wheat on the same farm, by some influence of the season which the farmer cannot control nor foresee. The Hessian fly sometimes ruins a field sowed early and at other times the late wheat suffers most. The most successful wheat raisers, he has observed, sow from the 1st to the 5th of October.

Jacob Shertzer said he would decrease his acreage but not cease raising wheat altogether. He would prepare the ground as usual and sow as soon as he could thereafter. If the fly appeared he would put all the stock he could on the field and let them eat it down to the ground and kill the fly.

Mr. Finney remarked that he had tried that plan and the stock would not eat the rank growth where the fly was.

Wm. Webster said he seemed to be in the minority. With present prospects he would advise a reduction in the amount of wheat sowed, but more attention to the preparation of the ground. He would get it in from September 20th to October 5th. Last year one of his fields, carefully prepared, yielded 15 bushels. Another which could not be put in good condition on account of the drought produced 4 bushels to the acre. He concluded that it would be well for farmers to decrease their acreage one-half and apply more fertilizer

to the acre than heretofore. If they lose a crop they are no worse off, because their land is left in good condition, and if they have a good crop they will be repaid. If we prepare the ground thoroughly, sow good seed, and harvest the crop properly we have reason to expect a good yield.

The committee on the road question was granted further time.

Mr. Geo. M. Jewett was elected an active member of the club.

The next meeting will be held at the residence of F. W. Baker, October 1st. The topic discussed will be: "The Saving and Selection of Field and Garden Seeds."

HUMBUGGING FARMERS.

Every agricultural paper devotes considerable space to this subject, it is a perpetual wonder to us that farmers are so easily humbugged and swindled. We cannot conceive of any class of people being humbugged about their own especial pursuit, so constantly and so persistently as falls to the lot of farmers.

A plausible stranger comes into a neighborhood and carries away as a trophy to his criminal sharpness, some valuable thing from every farm-house. At one he sells oats at \$10.00 a bushel, and from another he takes the owner's signature over which he will write a promissory note for a hundred dollars or more. Here he sells wonderful corn which turns out to be a fraud, and there a fabulous price is secured for wheat, which has been gathered from his own field and sold and now comes back with a new name and many very new pretensions.

All these, and a thousand other ways are used to humbug farmers, and they seem to be readily imposed upon by anyone who can talk freely, and who has plenty of "brass" and little or no conscience.

We may trace a good part of this liability of being humbugged to the farmers' door. He cares very little for his agricultural paper; and even when he subscribes for one, allows it to lie unopened perhaps for a week at a time. No decent agricultural journal, but frequently calls attention to the different humbugs which are constantly being invented to entrap the unwary. It is sad to think what a vast body of farmers must be entirely without an agricultural paper when they are so easily made the dupes of any glib tongued rascal who approaches them. They should remember that men of a genuine character very seldom can be found who will approach an entire stranger and propose great advantages to him which shall cost him nothing. Every genuine improvement and every legitimate source of income must be paid for by the person who is benefitted.

THE USE OF SALT.

Thirty years' successful use of salt upon all kinds of crops has proved its value. It should not be used on cold, heavy or moist soils, and, if any one does, he will be disappointed in the result, as its tendency is to keep the ground cool and moist. It should not be cast upon very young or tender plants of any kind, as it will be very sure to kill them. I had a friend who heard me recommend salt on onion beds, when I strictly urged that it should be dragged or worked in before the seed was sown; but, forgetting what I said, he did not salt until the onions were about two inches high, and it killed them all; but sowing another crop properly, it turned out splendidly. Had he waited until the tops were as big as a large pipe-stem, he might have covered the ground an inch deep, and his onions would have done finely. Salt is not much of a fertil-

izer in itself, though plants take it up, as you can tell by tasting and by the stiffening and glazing of straw of a plant grown in a salted ground. I think it acts upon and assimilates the gross matter in the soil, so as to make it available food. It should be in every garden.—*London Horticultural Times.*

FERTILIZERS.

The great source of fertilization of farms should be the farm itself, the stock kept upon it, and the management of crops. But all along the Atlantic seaboard and in all the States east of the Alleghany mountains on account of mismanagement this great source has not been sufficient to keep up the natural standard of fertility. This has made the purchase of commercial Fertilizers a necessity. But while this necessity is recognized, a great amount of anxiety is connected with their use.

The barnyard, the compost heap, the marl, peat or swam¹, luck, have results which the farmer can depend upon, while they are the product of his own farm, and only require a certain amount of labor to prepare properly and distribute over his acres. The artificial or commercial fertilizers, on the other hand, require the outlay of hard earned dollars, and are of such a character that the generality of farmers do not understand their action well enough to acquire confidence in them, so that they feel that a good degree of uncertainty is hanging over them, and consequently an anxiety as to the outcome of the crops on which they may be used.

Commercial fertilizers cannot be wholly dispensed with at present, and the most progressive and prosperous farmers of the country use very large amounts of them upon certain crops. We have long been desirous of having some exhaustive experiments on a large scale as to the value of commercial fertilizers; for the College

experiments have generally been on a few rods of ground and sometimes even with single plants, which are by no means satisfactory to thoughtful farmers. We shall be forced to wait for such extensive experiments until some future day; for even the Rothamstead experiments, while scientifically exact to scientific minds, are bunglingly presented to the common minds so that the farmers are but very little benefitted by them.

The great effort should be to determine what it is which gives the real fertility to soil, and to divest commercial fertilizers of the vast amount of useless ingredients which add to their cost, without actually benefitting the land. It is our conviction that many of the chemicals now depended upon are of little value, and that some of the manipulators, particularly so of dissolved bone, are an injury instead of a benefit.

A large field is open where the battle of artificial fertilizers is to be fought, and the search for the best and at the same time the cheapest may be prosecuted for a long time to come. Soils are so variable that the very best fertilizers may frequently prove ineffectual on one acre and give magnificent results on the adjoining. Such facts will render their use always a source of anxiety; while their actual value can never be accurately determined.

The seasons, also, must be taken into the account in any estimate we may make and it is manifestly unjust to condemn any fertilizer upon a single failure, or to extol any other fertilizer from a single success. We, however, would urge upon our readers to make the most out of the farm fertilizers, the effect of which has been proved beyond all question, and only use commercial fertilizers as a supplement.

Upon every farm the autumn and the winter give ton after ton of fertilizers

which are never gathered, never composted and always go to waste. Hundreds of dollars might be saved by a little foresight and care in this one direction; but all our words will pass and few will break up their old habits.

THE BEST GATHERINGS.

A Vermont farmer says that where he planted whole potatoes the yield is more than double that from cut seed.

It is said that not less than 2,000,000 pounds of dried sage leaves are used annually in the United States for various purposes.

Twenty barrels of Greenings were gathered off one tree last season.

Some immense cars have been built for the Empire fast-freight line to load with grain throughout Indiana. They have a capacity of 50,000 pounds, and attract a great deal of attention wherever seen. There are 450 cars of this class used on that line.

Few farmers realize the value of ashes, otherwise one would see them spreading the same on their grass lands or applying ashes to their cultivated crops, instead of selling them to the soapmen or allowing them to go to waste.

A mixture of marl, wood ashes and rich earth makes an excellent manure for young trees. No animal manure should be used unless it be completely decomposed.

The problem of farming consists in making the soil increasingly fertile. Manure is the farmer's saving bank, and if more of them would have large heaps of it every spring to spread upon their lands instead of money at interest, they would prosper better in the end.

In the old time when father cut the

grain with a cradle and the boys raked and bound the sheaves, there was very little cash outlay for harvesting. Now the binder does the cutting and binding, dad does the shocking, and the boys go to town to ride a bicycle or practice next Sunday's anthem.

Train a grape vine to grow over and across a poultry-yard, from one fence to the other, and it will provide the best and most comfortable shade that can be devised, as well as furnishing a supply of grapes for the family. Plant a few vines this fall as they will cost but little, and select varieties suitable to your climate.

Mignonette should be sown late in August or the middle of September for early flowering. The plants are always more fragrant and healthy when the seed is sown in August or September.

The cultivation of the bamboo for fencing material has begun in California. It is said that an acre will produce pickets enough each year to make six miles of fence.

A pound of copperas, costing three cts., in a bucket of water, sprinkled from a watering-pot in the pig-pen, will produce a cheap and excellent disinfectant, and will also largely assist in preventing disease.

Locality has a good deal to do with successful apple growing; although failure frequently results from bad stock.

High and level is not so suitable as high and rolling land for locating an orchard.

Shell lime, which is much cheaper than stone lime, is excellent for agricultural purposes, and the best time to apply it is when the land has been plowed and old sod turned under.

A bill to prohibit the coloring of oleo-margarine yellow, in imitation of butter,

was defeated in the Massachusetts Legislature.

Thousands of acres of land in Oneida and Herkimer counties, New York, were sold at auction at one cent an acre the other day.

Catnip is one of the most valuable plants for bees. The flowers are rich in honey, and for several months, commencing with June of each year, yield it freely at all hours and in any kind of weather. A patch may be easily raised from the seed, sown the latter part of summer or early in the spring.

The successful establishment of creameries and cheese factories in Mississippi and other southern states has given a new impetus to dairy interests in the South.

Mrs. M. Louise Thomas, President of Sorosis, is said to be one of the most successful bee-keepers in the country, gathering 10,000 lbs. of honey in a year.

The large canning factory of Louis W. Courtney, at Mudy's Point, Northumberland county, Va., was burned about 4 o'clock of August 31st. Loss several thousand dollars; no insurance.

Among the many practical reforms needed on the farm is the abolishment of cattle and horse abuse by hired men. A man who will kick a horse or cow should be discharged at once.

The rabbits are eating out the ranches in Steptoe valley, White Pine county, Nev. At night they come in whole armies and devour the growing crops.

If the air of the cellar is damp it may be thoroughly dried by placing in it a peck of fresh lime in an open box. A peck of lime will absorb about seven pounds, or more than three quarts of water, and in this way a cellar or milk room may soon be dried, even in the hottest weather.

INDEPENDENCE.

It is often asserted that the farmer is the most independent man in our country, and he may become so under certain circumstances. At present he is very far from this position, because a great lack of management is observable, as to the produce of the farm. The great object of the farmer's life should be to raise on his farm everything needed in his home. Then to raise enough to sell to pay taxes, help, and to buy such articles of wear and such luxuries as may be desirable in furniture, in decoration and in general outside life. The farm should first supply the table with all meats, all vegetables, all fruits; and under this head it would be impossible to supply a better table than the farm can give. Poultry, fish, beef, mutton, veal, pork, lamb, all in their season; while the great variety of vegetables and orchard fruits, and the array of berries and the product of the bee-hive will give everything which the most exacting could demand. The market should be watched, also, and a variety should be grown for cash sales so that the failure of any one crop would not cause the pocket book to become empty. The farmer must also make it a point to sell his own goods; for it is better to lose a few dollars on a crop by disposing of it in person for cash than to leave it to the handling of others who will consume many dollars in carelessness, delay, waste and decay, to say nothing of commissions, loss of packages, slow reports and returns and similar vexations. It is thus by proper management, a true independence can be secured by the farmer, and it is only thus that the saying becomes a reality, that the farmer's life is the most independent life a person can enjoy.

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To the Editor of the Maryland Farmer.

WESTERN LETTER.

Thinking you would like to hear from this Western country, I send you a line; but the prairie lands are so different from yours that it is very doubtful about our work being very useful to you.

I have been breaking up some new prairie soil, and as it may be a curiosity to some of your readers, I will commence at the beginning so that they may know just how I have managed. Two years ago the coming winter I came out west and arranged to buy a section, 160 acres, of land from a railroad company, and early in the spring I chose my land, paying a small sum and agreeing to build and cultivate, provided I could have plenty of time to pay the balance. I got up my shanty in a couple of weeks, so that I could stay on the land, and then commenced to break up the prairie. My nearest neighbor was three miles away; but he had plenty of cattle and tools and was very willing to give a new-comer a start. He kindly hired me his team and plow. The plow turned over three feet of sod at a time, cutting the roots about two inches or two and a half inches below the surface. The team was six yoke of oxen and a driver. It seemed very slow work, as the team went along so moderately, sometimes almost seeming to stop. Yet the great broad slice of grass and roots kept sliding up the mould-board and falling over, which was a sight I had never before witnessed, and which very few of your readers can realize until they see it. A great sheet slowly but continuously rising and falling over till at the close of half a day a large surface has been inverted, as if a black blanket had been spread over the green field.

This was in the spring, and my boy followed the plow with an axe in his hand, and chopping through the sod,

dropped two or three grains of corn in the place cut, and then trod on the spot. This was our first planting of corn.

Since then I have become quite familiar with the breaking up of prairie land, as would anyone of your readers after following one of these teams over about eighty acres. It is not all such smooth sailing either, as my words here would seem to indicate; for now and then the plow would encounter such a tangle of roots and such toughness of sod as would bring everything to a stand-still, and when the six yoke of heavy oxen responded to the driver's call, the movement of the plow became full of excitement.

We have very little to do here with manures as yet, although I think the time will come before long when all this prairie land will need fertilizing the same as your eastern lands. I have no stones and no trees on my place, and I have to go about five miles to get my winter's firewood. When I bought my land I also got my portion of wood-land, about twenty acres, on a small stream about five miles to the South. You have to look out for this when you buy prairie farms, or you will miss it. Some of my neighbors—for neighbors are those living within a dozen miles of us—have to burn corn sometimes, and one man grows ten acres of sun flowers just to burn them in the winter. and he says, they beat wood and coal "all hollow." I have got along first-rate thus far and have no cause to complain of the country. People have their trouble everywhere, and it is the same here. Dry weather is very dry, and crops suffer from natural causes, the same as in the east. Weeds are apt to grow in the rich soil even faster than planted crops, if they are left to themselves. Roads are of no account whatever, and you have to put up with any kind of accommodations in the way of conveniences, with no chance for

school or church privileges at present. But the country is growing very rapidly and it will not be long before these will come to us. Let me sign myself to your readers at present as

NEBRASKA.

CANNED GOODS.

There are 300 corn and tomato canning factories in Harford Co., Maryland. They are located on large farms. The labor in these factories is generally performed by women and children in straightened circumstances. In the winter they live in the large towns and cities, and go to the country and stay there during the canning season. The following is from the National Live-Stock Journal: The large packing houses in this city have lost much of their business through the farmers who now can the vegetables right on their farms. The goods are then shipped to Baltimore and sold by the brokers on cannnd goods exchange. The principal canning houses of Baltimore have branches in Chicago. The citizens of Baltimore pay from 50 to 100 per cent. more for their fruit and vegetables now than they did ten years ago. Tomatoes then, in the height of the season, were fifteen and twenty cents a bushel, now they are forty and fifty cents. Then there were frequent gluts of peaches and they were sold on wharves at ten cents a peck, now they seldom go lower than thirty cents a peck. The canning houses keep prices up.—*Southern Live-Stock Journal*.

A BOOM IN CALIFORNIA CANNED GOODS.—A dispatch from San Francisco says: "There is intense excitement in California canned goods circles. Prices are rapidly advancing. This week has seen an advance of 15 to 25 per cent. in peaches, pears and plums. The demand from Eastern states is unprecedented. It is not a question of price with buyers. Cannerns

dictate their own prices, and at the advanced price the demand is not materially lessened. They cannot hope to supply the orders by pressing the facilities of their canneries to their full capacity day and night. As long as the fruit season lasts every canner in the State is running at its full capacity. Thursday of this week one company refused an order for 20 carloads of canned fruits. Another company states that two cases for every one packed will not supply the demand upon them. One of the principal causes for the inability of canneries to meet orders is the scarcity of labor. It is impossible to secure the amount of help desired. Cannery men prefer whites, but after employing the latter and all the available Chinamen there is still a call for more laborers."

To the Editor of the Maryland Farmer.

EXTRACTS FROM CENTRAL NEW YORK LETTER.

The apple crop this year is a disappointment to us and Central New York will feel it more than any other part of the country, because many of the farmers of this region have depended upon the apple crop for their money to meet current expenses. It will, however, give a good lesson to many, that it is not just the thing to depend upon any one crop as the money producing crop. Those who do so are always liable to disappointment at some time. Those farmers fair better who have "several strings to their bow," as the saying is. I used to hear a great deal about the South, depending upon cotton for money for everything and growing little except cotton. It is just the same with us at the North when we grow nothing for money but fruit, or corn, or wheat, or even hay. Sooner or later the season will come when we must go without our money, our crop having been cut off. What are

called "mixed crops" are becoming a necessity on the farm; and he is wise who recognizes the fact. It is true our soil and climate are best adapted to apples and other hardy orchard fruits; but that is no reason why other branches of business should not flourish and some of the grains and vegetable crops have attention. The Mohawk valley region can produce the very best vegetables; and potatoes, cabbage, cellery and onions, may be grown to perfection, while the market for them is unrivalled.

There is plenty of room in Central New York for emigrants, for although I seldom hear of this part of our State inviting them, yet there are large tracts of country a little back from the great lines of travel, where land may be had cheap, and where a good living awaits those who buy and settle. Of course, it will require hard and patient work for awhile, for new settlers in this region. Yet when once they have become established in their homes, they are sure of success.

I hear of "abandoned farms" in the Eastern states; but here I cannot imagine how a farm, with any kind of improvements upon it, can ever become in such a state as to be an "abandoned farm." I cannot conceive how any piece of ground, where families have grown into maturity, can fail to produce enough under proper management to support a family in comfort.

In your last letter, you inquired particularly concerning our winters; but you must not think we suffer from the cold and snow; for we do not. Snow comes early and is deep and lying on the ground all winter keeps the land warm, so that early in the spring everything starts the quicker. Our homes are prepared for it, and the cold being continuous and dry it is both healthful and invigorating—quite different from your winter weather.

All places have their peculiar advantages and I am quite contented with Central New York. If I were living in your locality, perhaps I would see the advantages there and think them superior to those I am enjoying; but I know a pleasant life is possible here, and so I am, as ever, your friend.

Deerfield, N. Y.

J. C. T.

THE BEEF RING.

This comprises the various firms interested in dressed beef, and supplying the Eastern markets with this commodity, as well as exporting large quantities to European countries. They threaten a beef famine in our own land, and while they purchase cattle at figures which do not pay the producer, they place such prices on the dressed meat as pay them a golden royalty for handling it. They have become a monopoly of no mean proportions, and are grinding down the prices to Western farmers and ranchmen, while they are everywhere raising the prices to consumers of beef.

We have no sympathy with monopolists in any shape, and least of all with those who control any of the food products which are a necessity in sustaining our daily life. The figures these beef men are giving in the newspapers, and the many reports about a beef famine approaching, must be taken with some grain of allowance, when we know the motive they have in giving them to the public. They would scarcely give such figures, unless they saw money in it for themselves in some way. Beef on the foot is exceedingly low in price now, so that farmers get no profit in raising it, in comparison with other stock; even pork and mutton being far ahead of it, while horses and fancy dairy stock take the lead by many odds. The losses of stock during the past six months on the

plains and throughout our Western and Northwestern states is made to appear very large—no less than 1,500,000 head—and the statement is positively made that from 50 to 75 per cent of calves less than usual were dropped this spring. These show the drain upon the beef in one direction, while the diseases which have so greatly prevailed in every part of the land are used to lower the price to the farmer in spite of the drain. Between the two monopoly thrives. The price to the consumer is kept very high and the price to the producer is kept at the very lowest point, and the beef ring reaps the benefit. It is estimated that from \$10 to \$15 is the gain upon every head which they touch, and when it is remembered that they are numbered by millions, the power of the dressed beef monopolists can be safely rated as immense.

We are not among those, who consider western dressed beef necessarily less healthy or less desirable as food, than our home killed cattle; but we have no means of seeing why the farmer should be forced to sell his cattle so low, and yet the price of dressed beef remain so high. Some correspondence should be maintained between the prices. The public should demand lower prices for beef or the farmers should get higher prices for cattle. We should greatly prefer the latter to the former; for when the farmer prospers, all other branches of trade and commerce will prosper. Hold on to your cattle then, till the famine which is threatened shall come, or till the price of cattle on the foot shall be a paying price in harmony with the price of dressed beef.

Cost of Dogs.

An Iowa man has figured up the cost of keeping dogs in his State, and finds that they eat enough annually to feed 100,000

workmen, and counting in the damage they do the sheep farmers, the dogs cost the State \$9,000,000.

A Tennessee man makes out a similar condition of affairs in his State. He finds there are 300,000 worthless dogs.

Another writer, after making careful estimates of the damage done by dogs in the Northern States alone, finds it costs not less than \$33,000,000 annually to support dogs.

If estimates such as the above are at all reliable, \$50,000,000 would scarcely cover the cost of dogs to our country. The benefits derived from them are mostly imaginary, except in the case of shepherd dogs.

VARIOUS INTERESTING TOPICS.

It is sometimes thought an agricultural journal should spend all its space in the hum-drum talk about how to raise crops; when to plant, what to plant, how to plow and how to harvest. All these things are of course useful and should not be neglected; but there are ten thousand other things in which every farmer is interested just as much as are other men and women.

One farmer undoubtedly is very fond of horse racing; while his neighbor wants to know whatever is the rage in politics. One wishes to grapple with the intricacies of book farming; while the next one is always anxious for the last news from the the religious world, and would mingle his farming here with glimpses of a better harvest in Beulah Land. A very wide range of topics is interesting to all farmers, and timely subjects, with a pointed stick to convey the moral, are always welcome.

We are continually shocked with the constant occurrence of rail road accidents: At one time hundreds are killed and wounded—at another some poor brakeman

faithfully at his post, goes down with the broken cars to his death. Here an engineer strives to throttle his engine and is scalded to death by escaping steam, and there a conductor gladly welcomes his own doom provided none of his precious freight of passengers are harmed. It is sad to read of so many fatal accidents on our railroads; but it adds to our sense of the nobility of our common human nature, when we see such examples of faithfulness and self-sacrifice.

Since the marriage of President Cleveland and the occupancy of the White House by his youthful bride, her doings and sayings have been of great interest to every home in our broad country. It is gratifying to us to be able to record how pleasant is the impression she has made upon the hearts of the people. She belongs to our common humanity, and her words and acts are as gratefully received in the humblest cottage as in the most palatial mansion. Everywhere and among all classes of our countrymen and countrywomen, there is a pleasurable sense of pride, that a young maiden from the humble walks of life should step into so conspicuous a position, and win such golden eulogies from all parties for her natural graces, her goodness of heart and her general thoughtfulness of others.

How natural is it to pass from this theme to the general one of politics! The farmers are all interested in politics, or if they are not, they certainly should be interested. We do not suppose it would be advisable to form a new party to be composed of farmers; although at times we have felt very strongly that this would be the only way in which they could get their interests properly looked after by Congress. We would be glad if more persons were in Congress who really were connected with agriculture in a practical manner. We know a number of Senators

and Representatives are put down in the list of trades, professions and occupations, as farmers. They have during sometime in their lives owned a farm, perhaps, and having nothing to do but to seek office they call themselves farmers. The most of their farming has consisted in sitting behind fast horses or admiring some beautiful landscape; not in following the plow, sowing and reaping.

The better and broader and more general education of our children is a matter of surpassing interest to all farmers; and it is not to be wondered at that the Agricultural College should frequently be in their thoughts. What is wanted there to make it of real value? We want at its head a man of sterling character and worth, well known throughout our country from long and prominent connexion with agricultural institutions, and no reason exists why we cannot have such a man: Dr. Stuyvesant of New York, Prof. Cook of Michigan, or, if it would not be thought vandalism, Pres. Fairchild of Kansas. Let us have a pronounced agriculturist at its head, and one who will command from his past agricultural reputation the favorable consideration of every farmer in our State. We no longer want an Agricultural College without an Agricultural Professor; we want agriculture first and foremost there and always prominent. The plea of poverty is a false plea. Better dispense with four or five other professors than to be without such a president as we actually need.

We are glad to see that the question of the fisheries is in a fair way of settlement without recourse to violence. At one time it was a dangerous subject and indiscrete action would have precipitated hostilities. The power given to the President, while it might have proved a weapon of warfare and a declaration of war with a less care-

ful man, has been a wise provision under his management. We are in every case in favor of arbitration where mutual excitement is leading to thoughts of war. We consider that all nations form a brotherhood of humanity, and patient arbitration will harmonize the interests of all.

This brings us to other interesting topics: "The Irish question," "The Labor question," "Immigration," "Monopolies." They are all subjects for the farmers' thoughts; but we must rest here now and take them up at some future day.

THE FLOWER GARDEN.

DUTCH FLOWER BULBS.

As this is the season of the year for putting out Fall Bulbs for spring flowering. We give some notes from the well known Seedsmen, Messrs. J. Bolgiano & Son, on the preparation of the soil, planting, treatment, &c.



"The growing of Bulbs for winter and spring flowers is increasing each year, and deservedly so, as they may be brought into bloom early in spring, when other flowers are scarce, and with but little attention make a magnificent show."

THE HYACINTH.

This popular and well known flower may be grown in pots or glasses in the house, or in the open ground.

For the open ground the soil should be a light friable sandy loam, from which all coarse material has been removed. To



this should be added a liberal quantity of well rotted cow manure. Where this is not available, ground bone can be substituted. The bed should be well exposed to the sun, slightly elevated and made to slope, so that it may have proper drainage.

Plant the bulbs three to four inches apart each way. Cover the bed with leaves or litter on the appearance of freezing weather, and let it remain until the bulbs begin to grow in the spring, when it should be removed.

IN POTS.

For single bulbs use pots six inches in diameter; fill with rich garden loam or leaf mould, and see that they have good drainage. Set the bulb so that its top is just above the ground. The pots should then be plunged in sand for six weeks, when they may be brought to the light.

IN WATER.

The glasses should be filled so that the bulb just touches the water, (rain or river water is best,) then put the glasses in a cool dark place for a month, when they may be gradually brought to the light and heat. As the water evaporates it must be supplied, and changed when impure. A small lump of charcoal in each glass will keep the water sweet. The single Hyacinths are best adapted for growing in pots or glasses.



THE TULIP.

This beautiful flower is always attractive because of its brilliancy and variety of color. While in the early part of the seventeenth century as much as five hun-

dred pounds sterling was paid for a single bulb, it is now within the reach of all, because of its cheapness, and is supplied in greater variety than ever. The preparation of the soil and bed is similar to



that for the Hyacinth: Set the bulbs about six inches apart and three inches deep, filling in the holes with sand.

CROCUS.

These may be planted in a rich light soil, where no water will stand around the bulbs. Plant three inches deep. The treatment for Narcissus is similar to that for Hyacinths in the open ground."

An Insecticide.

We see it stated that one of the best and most destructive insecticides is one part gas tar and sixteen parts of lime by weight, making a fine powder. Potato bugs, cabbage worms and all insect pests are at once destroyed by it. It will cost but very little to try this remedy, and it is much preferable to the arsenic poisons so commonly used at present.

ALL new subscribers to the MARYLAND FARMER, sending \$1.00 for a year's subscription, will receive the October, November and December numbers free.

THE MARYLAND FARMER

AND
NEW FARM.

A STANDARD MAGAZINE,

DEVOTED TO

Agriculture, Live Stock and Rural Economy,

Oldest Agricultural Journal in Maryland and
for ten years the only one.

27 (New No.) EAST PRATT ST.,
BALTIMORE, MD.

BALTIMORE, October 1st, 1887.

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MANY of our Exchanges in giving us kindly notice, have made the very natural mistake of placing the office of the united magazines at Embla. Messrs. Walworth & Co., having purchased the MARYLAND FARMER, continues the publication at the old home of that magazine in Baltimore, and will be happy to receive a call from any of our brother Editors, at the office on Pratt St., as usual.

The New England Fair.

For many years our readers have been favored with an account of the Great New

England Fairs, from the personal observation and letters of the Editor. This year we are not so favored; but we learn from the exchanges from Massachusetts, that it was one of the best exhibits ever held by this Society. Particularly was this the case in Stock, and the Oxen and Steers were the finest ever exhibited in Worcester. It was forced to divide the honors with the Eastern Maine Fair, held in Bangor during the same week, where Mr. Burleigh carried his herd, instead of bringing it to Worcester.

The Eastern Maine Fair.

Exceeded this year any Fair ever before held in Bangor. The number of visitors was grater than at the combined New England and Eastern Maine of last year, and the attractions and display of stock, implements, produce, etc., proportionally excellent.

A Good Example.

The Ohio Agriculture College offers a free Scholarship in agriculture to one young man from every county in the State.

Another Good Example.

The Illinois University has reformed its agricultural department, and will have this year fourteen professors in agriculture, and admit students to the agricultural course from the common schools of the Staet.

This is Good.

The *New Orleans Picayune* says: "Most of the farm work in Southern States is done by mules. This leaves horses free to run races at agricultural fairs, where racing is the most prominent feature." Racing is not peculiar to the Southern States at agricultural fairs; but is also a bane throughout every part of our land, turning our fairs into betting, gambling and quarreling gatherings.

The Maryland Farmer and the New Administration.

We send out a few specimen copies of this number, and we hope those who receive them will examine and read them. With our present array of writers for the magazine, we are confident of making it the equal of any agricultural journal in our country. We ask you, if it meets your approbation, to send in your name as a subscriber. Those who subscribe now, \$1.00, will receive the entire year of 1888 and from October of this year.

We enclose, also, to our old subscribers "subscription slips" and earnestly request each to get one or more of their neighbors to subscribe. We would be much pleased to add 5000 subscribers to our list; and it can be done, if each will make a slight effort in our favor. Additional improvements will keep pace with our growing list of subscribers.

Small Farms and Better Land.

We cannot enough insist upon the fact that a garden soil on a farm of ten acres, properly cultivated, and devoted to a variety of crops demanded by the nearest market, is better than a hundred acres as ordinarily managed by the great majority of farmers. We read of statements, verified by the oaths of the owners and of competent witnesses, where such small farms have brought marvellous sums to their proprietors; in some cases in New England, more than 800 dollars profit from a single acre. With such facts before us, is it not well to call the attention of farmers to the possibilities of small tracts of land when properly enriched and carefully worked? If the proverbially cold and barren soil of New England can bring such profit, what may be expected in this region?

LARGE FLOCKS.

Conversing with a Poultryman who is keeping between one and two thousand in stock, we were pleased to learn some of his methods. He was of the opinion that many failed because they commenced too extensively and before they had sufficient knowledge of the business. He said, during his first year he lost about \$700,00; but he did not become discouraged for he was sure that he could redeem his losses in the future. This is where others fail; in becoming discouraged and disgusted just when they have learned where the difficulty lies.

Among other items, he remarked that he was up as soon as it was light enough to work every morning and the first thing he did before releasing his flocks, was to clean out their drinking vessels thoroughly and refill with clean pure water. His chickens hurried to the water as soon as released and drank freely. Four or five times every day he supplied them with fresh water. This was quite an item of work.

He conversed at length upon the importance of being up with the very first morning light and allowing the poultry to get an early meal. This was the principal thing upon which he based his success in chicken raising and egg productiveness. But of course all the usual work of poultrymen was also carefully attended to. He thought where such large numbers were kept, he should naturally expect some mortality and did not worry about it. By care, constant study of his business, and close observance of his stock, he believed he had reduced the death rate to a minimum. Success depends upon vigilance and good solid work, with a share of common sense in the treatment of the stock.

THE Ohio wheat crop has fallen off this year 8 millions of bushels, only 31,938,037 being the amount of this year's crop.

THE HALF HOLIDAY.

New York is blessed (?) with a legal half holiday, Saturday afternoon. We have watched the effects of it with a great deal of interest. It was legalized as a source of benefit to the laboring classes, with the supposition that it would tend to elevate the great hosts who are employed during all other days in the labor and business of the world. It was supposed by those who honestly advocated it, that this holiday would bring a much needed rest, with room for the cultivation of the mind, and also room for the recreation with the family, which could not be taken on Sunday.

From diligent inquiries by the reporters of the *New York Sun*, a wide difference of opinion seems to prevail where perfect unanimity was supposed to exist. The workmen very generally would be pleased with the holiday, if they were not forced to lose half a day's pay at the same time. The vast majority of them look upon it as the work of politicians seeking to win the votes of the workingmen, while the men who take the half holiday must carry home less wages than before it became a law. The idea that it gives that much additional time to loaf about saloons and spend what they do earn is not generally entertained by the workingmen. They say that if any are disposed to spend their earnings for drink they will do it whether they have the half holiday or not. The whole matter seems to turn upon the fact, that they cannot take the holiday and receive pay for it also. Before the law was passed, if they wanted half a day they could take it, and that is all they can do now.

The struggle to get pay for doing nothing which is the accompaniment of the demand for short hours, holidays, strikes, is working injuriously upon the laboring community and threatens the

prosperity of the country. It is one of the elements at the base of all the tendencies towards anarchy which have appeared in many of our large cities. Of course as a State law it is just as binding in the country and on farmers as it is among citizens and manufacturers in town; but it would be utterly impossible to enforce such a law in the country except to the ruin of the farmer's crops.

Evidently the half holiday has not proved to be an unmixed blessing. As it is now, Sunday is a very, very long day to many workingmen and such men are by no means desirous of giving up an additional half day's pay for the sake of idling away their time. Many large employers were accustomed to shorter hours on Saturday, before the law, without "docking their hands." This law gives them the opportunity to save a half day's wages on each man, and still carry out a little more thoroughly their former practice.

Homing Pigeons.

In this city are about 400 fanciers who are interested in this sport, and although only a part of them belong to the nine clubs in the city of Baltimore, an aggregate of nearly 5000 of these pigeons are owned here. One of the principal clubs is the Chesapeake, of which J. H. Leonardt is president, owning 460 birds, and it is believed the club birds will number about 3000. On July 2d, the best time on record was made by Jocko, of Summertown, Pa., from Spartanburg, S. C., 510½ miles, at an average speed of 1,151½ yards per minute. It is a sport which has a strong fascination for those engaged in it. Latterly, some of the pigeons have returned with shot in them, and some have not returned. The subject of a law to protect them from gunners is to be agitated.

GARDEN FARMS.

We do not think we are doing our duty to our readers unless we show occasionally the importance of putting the farm into the rich condition ordinarily belonging to the Garden, and growing on a few acres a greater amount of paying crops than usually falls to the lot of farmers who work hundreds of acres. The evidences are constantly accumulating of the truth of this position, and T. B. Terry, of Summit Co., Ohio, relates an instance in point. He is writing concerning J. M. Smith, of Green Bay, Wisconsin. He is writing about the middle of August, to *Country Gentleman*.

"He said to me when we were walking over his garden: 'Had I told any one when I began that any such results could be obtained at gardening on this soil, my best friends would have gone back on me.' His success is almost like a fairy tale; but to fully appreciate it one wants, as I did, to ride across the State from Winona to Green Bay, and see the almost countless miles of barrenness. I think for 75 miles we did not see anything that could be called a house or a fence. The stations were mostly cheap supply huts for lumbermen. From this desert of sand, step into his garden (only 40 acres), and see what one educated man can do.

This letter is getting too long and I must sum it up in few words. Carload after carload of produce goes to almost every part of the Union. Take the before mentioned cabbages. He has 100,000. They are going like hot cakes, this dry year, for 6c. a piece. Figure that up, you 300-acre farmers, and see if you can come in sight of it. But that is only half the story, for many of these were raised after strawberries that gave 225 bushels per acre, and all this without any rain to speak of!

I have no business to tell of it; but Mr.

S. told me that his cash sales from the 40 acres, from the 9th of May until he left home, averaged \$60 a day, and he was sure the season was not half over. Is he satisfied with this? Not a bit of it. He says he does not believe that even he realizes yet what the land is capable of doing.

Isn't there food for thought in this? Here is a man with the income of a prince from 40 acres of land, while many a one with a hundred acres of naturally better soil is slowly starving himself and family, speaking in a broad sense. To what is the difference owing? Let every farmer think long and carefully before he answers."

We have thousands and thousands of acres of such land in this State, where just such results can easily be obtained by the intelligent farmer. He must be ready to take hints from every source, and he must be a reader of some periodical devoted to the ideas of an advanced system of farming. A few acres, high cultivation, timely care of crops, generous enrichment of soil; these things will bring the bounteous return. Why should you not, if possible, get \$800 from *one* acre instead of from *one hundred acres*? A great many farmers hardly accomplish this latter; but some have even accomplished the former.

So We Go.

JOS. H. REALL, at one time President of an important dairy organization, and the champion of the anti-oleomargarine bill, is getting a great many pithy comments from the agricultural press in view of his mining schemes. Apparently they consider his mining stock, and his new departure generally, as worthy of a quiet smile.

Subscribe to the MARYLAND FARMER, with a premium, only \$1.00 per year.

Lettuce.

For early marketing, lettuce should be started in the hot bed during the month of October, and as soon as large enough transplanted to other beds.

If grown in a greenhouse it must have the usual greenhouse attention; but when started in hot bed and transplanted to other frames the work is entirely different.

The great effort must be to keep it from being touched with frost, and it must accordingly be protected by a thick layer of straw, or hot bed mats, or both, according to the severity of the weather.

The last of January or the first of February it will be ready for market, and grown in this way is generally very tender, and commands a large price.

Cuttings.

The last of August and anytime thereafter the cuttings of currants and gooseberries may be taken. Choose good, sound wood of this year's growth; cut into lengths containing at least three buds; and plant out in the garden soil about six inches apart in the row—one bud above the surface. Next spring the plants will show themselves and very few fail to come. It is generally advised to tie in bundles and keep through the winter in a cool cellar, with the butts up, covered with damp moss; but we have found the other plan far preferable.

Fish Commissioner.

The newly appointed U. S. Fish Commissioner, in the place of the late Prof. Baird, of the Smithsonian Institute, is the assistant secretary of the Smithsonian Prof. Brown Goode. He has been an especial student in this department, and is the author of the "Game Fishes of the United States," a work published by

Scribner's Sons, N. Y., and sold for \$50.00 a set, in ten parts—the edition printed not being equal to the demand.

Maryland Agricultural College.

The Maryland Agricultural College opened on the 20th inst. The number and character of the students already entered are considered very satisfactory, and the officers of the institution entertain strong hopes of a successful year. All the vacancies in the faculty have been filled. Prof. J. B. Starr, a graduate of the Naval Academy, has been appointed professor of mathematics and commandant. Mr. Paul Combs, of St. Mary's county, who graduated at the Western Maryland College, has been appointed principal of the preparatory department. Prof. Fontaine will fill the chairs of French and German. W. Horace Soper, once secretary of the State board of education, and who is well known to educationists throughout the State, is registrar of the College. Prof. Conrad, late president of the Blacksburg (Va.) Agricultural College, has been made chairman of the faculty. All the other professors are well known to the patrons of the College. The executive committee of the trustees, Messrs. Walsh, Johnson and Dodge, are active in their efforts to put the College on a sound footing, and make it not only satisfactory to the patrons, but an institution which will command the fullest confidence and support of the whole people of the State.
—Sun.

Sweet Corn.

N. J. Shephard in the *American Garden*, says: "My rule before has been to plant Amber Cream, Early Minnesota, Black Mexican and Stowell's Evergreen; but the Cory, Farquhar's First Crop, Bal-

lards, Extra Early and Extra Early Orange were mature before any of those three this year."

Pork Packers.

During the year 86-7 the number of hogs packed in the United States were 779,505

more than for the year previous, the whole number packed being 12,083,012. The number of hogs dying from disease during the past year is not given; but they were enough to make the eating of pork by no means desirable except where their healthfulness can be assured.

SPECIAL MENTION.

Silver Plating.

To all those families who often desire some place to which they may take their ice pitchers, knives and forks, castors and whatever needs repairing and replating; from experience we can recommend W. F. Focke, 105 Hanover St. He will take just as much care with any article for common table use, as he does with the most costly; and his prices for the family, are no greater in proportion than for the large dealer. It is a great convenience to know just where to go for these things, and to know also that the prices will be reasonable. Mr. Focke is not at present an advertiser in our Magazine; but we give him this free notice because his work merits it.

Fertilizers.

It is always pleasant to call upon a house where you feel that you can rely perfectly upon what is told you, and that you can return to your home and not be disappointed in what you are to receive from them. Such a house is that of R. J. Baker & Co., of this City, who have by strict integrity and close attention to the wants of their customers become one of the leading firms in the fertilizing trade.

Photographic.

Richard Walzl, whose advertisement has been running in our Magazine for sometime, has a remarkable record in his line. As a discoverer and as the first introducer of new processes, he has always kept far in the front. His work is always first-class, and

there is a finish about his cheapest pictures, which commands the approbation of his customers. It is his personal supervision and care which has brought him such brilliant success, so that he is now, in all his art appointments, in advance of all others in our City.

Coal.

The "cold waves" remind us that the people will wish to know where they can be sure to get the worth of their money in the purchase of fuel. We feel justified in calling the attention of our readers to the Reiley Bros., whose yard is on Park Ave., near Bidle St. Prices as low as any, full weight, well cleaned, true to name and number, and prompt delivery. Farmers with their own teams cannot do better than call upon them. They have offices also at 110 N. Howard and Franklin and Fremont Sts.

John Saul's Nurseries.

We take the opportunity, before the season closes for the fall planting, to invite our readers to send to John Saul, Washington, D. C., for his Catalogue. Knowing his reputation for many years past, we are sure that whoever buys from his establishment will be well satisfied.

Important to Breeders.

How to prevent disease:—Keep premises, houses and runs perfectly clean, well ventilated, free from vermin, and use Foutz's Horse and Cattle Powder, three times per week, mixed in their soft morning's feed, and

roup and cholera will never trouble you. A gent here had 40 fowls badly afflicted with cholera and roup, and by the use of this powder he cured every one in a short time. It has worked wonders for me. I find it, too, a splendid tonic for young chicks and for adult fowls during moult, as well as a magic egg producer. It is manufactured by David E. Foutz, of Baltimore, Md. J. A. MONROE, Breeder and Shipper, Monroe, Union county, N. C.

Peach Yellows, &c.

We have received the following under such circumstances, that we consider the small charges made by the Hon. E. S. Reed, merely pay for his trouble. His remedies deserve a trial; and if effectual, as he believes them to be, they will be worth thousands of dollars to our readers.

VALUABLE DISCOVERY, *Persicus Medecinus.*

I have discovered a specific remedy, preventing "Yellows" in Peach Trees, which I will grant to any desiring it, for \$5 00.

Forty years of Horticultural experience

enables me to know the verity of what I assert.

I have also discovered a specific remedy for destroying lice on cabbage, turnips and peach tree lice, and the green worm on cabbages, which I will grant to applicants for \$1.00.

The remedy for each is simple, cheap and easily applied.

Formulas secured to grantees by copyright.
Landisville, N. J. ELIAS S. REED.

EDUCATION.—We call attention to the advertisement in our columns of one of the first schools for young ladies in the Union. We refer to Wesleyan Female Institute, Staunton, Va. This College has a corps of 22 accomplished teachers and officers, especially trained for their respective positions. The number educated in this time-honored school reaches into the thousands. Its graduates are sought for as teachers far and wide. Its superior and varied facilities for a useful and ornamental education, and the Christian care and attention bestowed, make it just such a College home as every parent desires for his daughter. The late Bishop Doeggett says: "Its course of study is ample, its faculty accomplished, its instruction both solid and elegant, its personal accommodations healthful, comfortable and tasteful, its discipline eminently judicious, its atmosphere salubrious, and it possesses all the facilities of a thorough education." Rev. Dr. Harris, the President, has been called a national educator, and the enviable reputation has been fairly earned, for there is not a State in the South that has failed to pay its tribute by sending its daughters to him, and but few in the North. With the superior advantages offered, and the low price, it is not strange that this Institute has attained the proud eminence of having over 160 boarding pupils from 20 different States.

LIVE-STOCK.

MODEL CARRIAGE-HOUSE AND STABLE.

Our engraving of the elevation, on the following page, shows doors of the rectangular, carriage-house portion of the building; also door to hay-loft. The carriage-house doors are folding, and open outward, as they can be made closer than when hung on rollers; and as it is desirable that all doors and windows should be as close as practicable, that they may not affect the ventilation, the ingress of which is provided for by a subterranean air duct, seen at A, in the ground plan.

The posts are sixteen feet in length; the ceiling of the stable is nine feet in the clear, with storage in the loft for twelve tons of hay.

The oat bin is a cylinder of one hundred bushels capacity, around which circular stairs are built. Its location could not be more convenient, as six horses can be fed grain with walking but fourteen feet, on account of the six stalls being with the head end around a semicircle of sixteen feet diameter. This circular area is open to the cupola, and being supplied with air through the floor, under the stairs, and the animals all breathing into a common centre directly under the egress, the air is constantly changed without a perceptible current, and it is nearly at the temperature of the earth below the frost and solar influence; no doors nor windows need be opened.

By reference to our illustration of the

ground plan, it will be seen that the stall partitions are radial. The stalls are five feet in width in front, and eleven feet at the rear end. The stalls V and VI are covering a sink, or pit, into which the urine falls. These are all connected by pipes, which all connect with a main inner conduit, laid in the ground by way of the

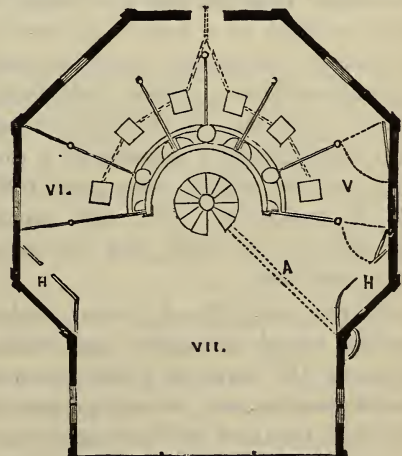


arranged with strong gates hung to the wall of the building, in a line with the stall partitions, which, when closed, as seen in stall VI, form spacious, convenient box stalls. There is no partition between the carriage-house, VII, and the stable portion of the building, except that formed by the stall partitions and the gates closed, as seen in stall VI.

The ventilation is so effectual that the air of the stable does not effect the carriage-house; and it being arranged with three drive doors, three pairs of horses to carriages may all be driven into the carriage-house at once, and the doors closed behind them, and the horses taken to their respective stalls. There are two harness closets, H, H.

The rectangular figures in each stable

stable door. This conduit discharges into the manure house. The quadrant-shaped figures at the head of the stalls, are hinged



iron mangers, which may be turned into the feeding passages for convenience in

feeding, and the mangers may be unhinged and removed from the building when cleansed.

The circular figure in the line of the stall partitions, is the base of a sheet-iron hay tube.

The building is perfectly lighted and ventilated, and exhibits a pretty elevation from any point of view.

European Greed.

The demand in our country for the most perfect specimens of draft horses, has caused a general interest throughout the countries of Europe to bring their stock to the highest type of excellence. They take for granted that American importers have unlimited amounts of gold and their demands are extortionate. But we must have the best and are forced to pay for it.

Take Care of Your Horse.

Cerebro spinal meningitis is now scaring Newark horsemen. The disease has stricken forty or fifty horses within a week, and over a dozen have died from it. The street car, express and brewery horses have escaped thus far, and the disease is mainly confined to a few livery stables. The disease is considered contagious, and a rigid quarantine is enforced at all stables in which it appears. In the horse, cerebro spinal meningitis first appears as a sore throat, and the animal finds great difficulty in swallowing. The sick animal soon falls in his stall, and his limbs become paralyzed.

TRENTON, Aug. 25.—A disease which resembles spinal meningitis has broken out among the horses in Burlington and Atlantic counties, and seventy animals, it is reported, have died of it during the past ten days in the country between Tuckerton and the borders of Atlantic county,

a few miles away. The horses generally die within a day or two after being attacked. Not over one per cent. of the animals stricken recover.

Scotch Cattle.

The United States government have prohibited, until further notice, the importation of all cattle from Scotland into any part of the country. While this step is to be regretted in the interests of the breeders of the different varieties of Scotch cattle, no one can be greatly surprised at it. Pleuro-pneumonia has been prevalent in several districts of North Britain for many months, and it still lingers among us. No adequate steps have been taken to rid the country of this scourge, and for this state of matters the privy council authorities are mainly, if not entirely, responsible.—*North British Agriculturist*.

Wet Sheep.

SHEEP that are accustomed to a shed will run to it of their own accord when it rains, and it is well that they should. Water never yet did a sheep good, externally administered. No sheep is the better for a wetting, but rather worse, no matter what the time of year. The wool in a man's coat is injured by rain, and so, only to a less degree perhaps, is the living fiber on the sheep's back.—*Thoroughbred Stock Journal*.

The Horse Wore Goggles.

A horse with goggles was one of the attractions of the Clinton square market place the other afternoon. The Manlius farmer who owned him said he discovered recently that the animal was very near sighted, and an oculist to whom he took the nag said so, too. The eye-man took the necessary dimensions and, sending

to New York, had a pair of concave spectacles made expressly for Dobbin. When the farmer tried them for the first time the horse appeared to be startled, but, recovering from his surprise, manifested every symptom of pleasure. They are made so as to be firmly fastened in the headstall, and cannot be worn without that piece of harness.

"When I turn him out to pasture," said the farmer, "he feels uneasy and uncomfortable without his goggles, and last Sunday he hung around the barn and whinnied so plaintive-like that I took out the bit and put the headstall and goggles on him, and he was so glad that he rubbed my shoulder with his nose. Then he kicked up his heels and danced down to the pasture. You ought to have seen him. I hate to let him wear specs all the time, though, for fear he will break them,"
—*Syracuse Standard*.

THE Frederick Poultry, Pigeon and Pet Stock show will be held January 11 to 13, 1888. All previous notices are withdrawn.

Calm, Cool Friendship.

Two farmers occupying adjoining estates, who were rather haughty in stock rivalry, and studiously cold, stiff and short with each other, met by the roadside one morning.

First farmer—Good morning.

Second farmer—Good morning.

First farmer—What was it you gave your horse when he had the botts?

Second farmer—Spirits of turpentine.

First farmer—Good morning.

Second farmer—Good morning.

Second meeting the following morning.

First farmer—Good morning.

Second farmer—Good morning.

First farmer—Did you say you gave your horse spirits of turpentine when he had the botts?

Second farmer—Yes, sir.

First farmer—I gave my horse spirits of turpentine for the botts, and he died.

Second farmer—So did mine.

First farmer—Good morning.

Second farmer—Good morning.—*Boston Journal*.

COMMUNICATIONS.

To the Editor of the Maryland Farmer.

KENT COUNTY.

The present growing season is drawing to a close. The fading and dropping leaves, the cool north wind and shorter days remind us that winter will soon be here, and the question is, What success has followed the hopes of our farmers?

Without doubt it has been a disastrous season to many of our farmers. It is well known that Kent has been for some time the leading county of the country, and perhaps of the world, for fruit—especially peaches; and although early in the season

every outlook indicated a fine crop, from some unexplained cause there has been an almost complete failure, not only of the peaches, but of every other fruit; while the little that got through the struggle is of a very inferior nature. Safely it can be said that there has never been such a disappointment throughout the county, as the failure has been a general one. A difference of opinion exists in reference to the failure and the question is, Can any remedy be suggested to prevent the return of such a disaster? Such indeed it is to a county that has so much of the land in fruit and that fruit of the very best quali-

ty. An expert, it is said, of the Agricultural Department of the Government, has been here this summer making investigations and we wait for his report with much interest.

The season for growing has been a fine one and such a growth of vegetation I have never seen. The corn joins hands with everything else and everywhere fine fields of corn are seen. On a timothy sod after eight years cutting, I have never had before such a bountiful crop.

Let me here insert a few facts: For 20 years not a pound of purchased nitrogen has been applied to this land. The query naturally arises, Whence did the nitrogen come which is found in the many crops gathered in that time? Sir J. B. Lawes gives the same result with his barley crop for forty years without nitrogen, and at the end of that time finds twenty thousand pounds of nitrogen in the land per acre within reach of the roots. This surely does not look as if the value placed upon nitrogen by the Agricultural Stations was a true one. Some of our farmers have joined a club for the purchase of fertilizers by the hundred tons and are obtaining it at prices to correspond with the price of wheat, and find that nitrogen is not a necessary element to give good crops.—Leaving out this nitrogen, therefore, the price they pay, \$13.75 per ton, is quite a saving.

My experiment the past season, on my little artificial island constructed for the purpose, is not concluded; but in an early number of your valuable journal I hope to give you some of the details—although not as conclusive as I had hoped, because owing to the exposed position with a steady wind the pollen failed to lodge at the proper place and the corn failed to be fertilized by it.

The pastures have been good all the season and for the first time the local demand

for butter has been supplied from the neighborhood. Usually butter is a scarce article in this district, although the large population who are mostly engaged in the oyster and fishing business create a good demand for it.

Fishing has been bad this season and the delicious bay mackerel usually caught here in such abundance have been very scarce, so that no one has met with any great success; and now, as the season is drawing to a close for them, as in the case of the peach crop, a great failure must be reported. The taylor and perch have only been in moderate supply and taking all into consideration times are going to be hard here. The oyster business, however, has opened quite brisk and a good demand has started the tonguemen to work.

At last we hear that the Chester River Steamboat Company have seen the importance of making a stop at this thriving, growing town, and it is currently reported that they are making arrangements to build a wharf. Then we will be within two hours travel of Baltimore, instead of four or five as at present, via Gray's Inn. This has long been needed.

As usual our school has opened with a full attendance, from 150 to 160 pupils, with three competent teachers.

Rock Hall, Md.

A. P. S.

To the Editor of the Maryland Farmer.

TOBACCO STEMS FOR LAND.

It is apparent that a most excellent manure for any crop would be a crop of like nature; for the one would supply the very elements of the soil needed by the other, and in the proper proportions. But since this would give the agriculturist no return for his labor, we can only give as much of each crop to the soil as remains after economic use of the crop. In the case of certain grain and grass crops we can return to the soil almost their

manurial value by feeding them to animals and carefully saving and applying the manure of the animals. With some crops, tobacco for instance, this is not possible. But of these crops there is a part which is not put to economic use, and our care must be to put this part on the land. Of the tobacco crop, the stems and the midribs are not used. The stems remain with the producer. Prof. Johnson says that these stalks contain nearly five per cent. of potash, seven-tenths of a per cent. of phosphoric acid, and nearly three and one-half per cent. of nitrogen. As, at the time the leaves are stripped from them, the stalks usually contain 46 per cent. of water, at that time one hundred pounds of stalks will contain about 2.6 pounds of potash, 0.36 pounds of phosphoric acid, and 1.85 pounds of nitrogen. From 1500 to 2000 pounds of dry stalks may be yielded by an acre of land, and they will have a manurial value of \$15 to \$20.

These stalks would, of course, constitute an unusually valuable fertilizer for tobacco land, as they would supply potash in the large proportion in which it is needed by the tobacco plant. They would be equally valuable on land that is to grow crops that use potash largely; and in the tobacco growing sections no other fertilizer for potash plants will be so economical as tobacco stems. It is apparent, however, that from their composition they will not be of great value to some crops—those that require phosphoric acid largely. The midribs of the leaves could be got of tobacco manufacturers at prices that would make them very profitable investments to near-by growers.

JOHN M. STAHL.

Quincy, Ills.

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To the Editor of the Maryland Farmer.

"FALL PLANTING."

The September number of your Magazine, with the added title of New Farm, is received, and I like the appearance of it, much.

Your article on Fall Planting is seasonable and proper; but there is one still more important fact, in favor of it, not alluded to in your article, which should be noticed, for either, plants, cuttings, or young trees; and that is—the soil is much warmer in the fall than in the spring, which is favorable to the making and setting of new roots, the first object in all successful vegetable growth. Roots must be made and take lively hold of the soil before we can have successful, permanent growth of plants above the ground. It will not do to have or encourage leaves before there are sufficient roots below to sustain them. Warm air above and cool earth below will hasten leaf-growth before there are sufficient roots to sustain them, and after a short time they perish. This is why professional and successful propagators of young plants and trees provide "bottom-heat," as it is called, and secure darker or cooler air above, to ensure lively growth of cuttings.

Now, in the spring-time the soil is colder and the air warmer; but in fall the soil is warmer and the air cooler; hence, better growth, and surer, is secured by fall planting, and transplanting, than in the spring. Grass seed will sprout sooner and grow better when sown in the fall than spring, for the same reason.

Washington, D. C.

D. S. C.

THE Editor acknowledges the receipt of complimentary Ticket to the Fourteenth Annual Exhibition of the Agr. and Mech. Asso. of Harford county, to take place at Bel Air, Oct. 11 to 14.

To the Editor of the Maryland Farmer.

COLD STORAGE VAULTS.

How many of the Maryland and Virginia farmers who dispose of their produce in Washington city know of the Cold Storage Vaults recently constructed by the Centre Market Co. of that city, or, knowing of them, realize their value?

During a recent visit in that city, I called upon the Company to ascertain the charges for storing vegetables, and was turned over to the gentlemanly superintendent of the Vaults—Mr. Geo. H. McKay—who kindly took me through the establishment and explained its workings.

The store-rooms are over the South or B. St. front of the Centre Market, the roof of which was raised to admit of their construction. There are three tiers on each side of the Market House and extend two squares, from the Seventh St. to the Ninth St. Wings.

The temperature of the vaults can be regulated at all seasons of the year to the fraction of a degree, thus rendering it possible to preserve butter, eggs, poultry, meats, fish, vegetables, fruits and other perishable articles for an indefinite period. In company with Mr. McKay, I took an elevator on the street and in less time than it takes to read these few lines, we were whisked from the torrid temperature of an August day to the frigid region over head. We passed through closely fitting swing-doors into an entry running half the length of the Market House, and thence, through doors which can be closed tight, by means of peculiarly constructed clamps, into the vaults. The first of these was filled with immense quarters of beef, some of which had been there, as shown by the tags pinned upon them, for more than three weeks. Even these were as sweet to the olfactory nerves, as if they had just arrived from the abattoire; and no wonder,

for the thermometer on the wall showed the temperature to be four degrees below freezing point.

The air was pure but a *leetle* cool for one dressed for an average August day, and I was glad to make my escape.

Another vault was used for mutton and another for veal, all of which was in splendid condition. One of the vaults was open, for men to store meats, and I noticed that they very sensibly wore heavy Ulster overcoats while engaged in the work. One vault was devoted exclusively to the storage of butter and the large room was almost filled to the ceiling with tubs of the golden luxury, which in that temperature was sure to keep pure and good for months. In another, was a large quantity of fresh fish in barrels, but the air was perfectly free from taint that would indicate that these extra perishable goods were keeping as well as if they were in their native element. In other vaults I saw fresh poultry, apples, pears, peaches, potatoes, tomatoes and the like, while one was given over to the storage of tropical fruits. It is necessary to preserve these various articles in different temperatures, consequently a separate vault is used for nearly every line of goods, and it was remarkable how nearly the thermometer confirmed Mr. McKay's remark while unlocking the door, "this room is—so many degrees." The temperature of each vault can be maintained at a given point the year round, and Mr. McKay assured me that at certain temperatures, which have been ascertained by experience, perishable articles like those named, can be kept in a normal condition for many months.

The application of the principal for the benefit of farmers will have been already guessed by the reader. A farmer takes to market a load of produce, but finding the supply in excess of the demand, can store his goods in the vaults instead of

disposing of it at a loss. Or, if he is caught by a warm spell with a big lot of Thanksgiving turkeys or geese, or poultry of any kind on hand, instead of sacrificing it, he can store it, and sell at his leisure or keep it over till Christmas if he chuses.

So far the hucksters, butchers and commission men are about the only dealers who have availed themselves of the vaults; but the Market Co. contemplate starting a selling bureau for the benefit of farmers and non-resident patrons, so that goods may be stored subject to orders to sell.

I do not remember the charges for storing, they struck me as being rather high, but that can probably be arranged to the satisfaction of the farmers, especially if all the farmers of a given neighborhood will agree to lump their produce and thus make a large business for the Company.

Harewood Farm.

G. E. J.

To the Editor of the Maryland Farmer.

SOUR SOIL.

In your last issue, B. W. J. has a short article headed as above. If he means by a sour soil mixture of sand and clay with humus or other allied acids, I cannot agree with him regarding the application, although freely endorse every word that can be said in favor of getting rid of surplus water; for of all the evils known to owners of such land, this surplus water is the greatest; but it does not produce the acid as understood by the writer. On the contrary, the water retards its production. All organic acids have as their base, carbon, and there is no trace of carbon in water; hence, we must look to the vegetable kingdom for it and in the earliest resolution of vegetable matter the first new compound that makes its appearance is an acid, and this acid in turn renders mineral matter soluble so that it can enter the cells of plant life. The application of lime

certainly neutralizes the acid and at the same time eliminates an inorganic acid, carbonic, that was combined with the lime, really decomposing the lime instead of the lime decomposing the vegetable acid—as fully explained by the writer in your journal some months ago. Too much water keeps the land cold, and shuts out air and heat and without the two latter agents vegetable matter cannot decompose. Hence will be seen the importance of bringing into play these agents by the displacement of the water, so that the necessary acids may be formed by the oxidation of carbonaceous matter. The moral is: Get in your land the all-important organic acids, and the quickest, surest and only way is by turning under a green crop, or a full supply of barn-yard manure, such as straw, corn stalks, weeds, chips, &c., none of which is necessary to pass through an animal as nothing is thereby added to it. A. P. SHARP.

Rock Hall, Md.

To the Editor of the Maryland Farmer.

THE POTATO CROP IN CONNECTICUT.

In the early part of the season there was great promise of a full and abundant crop of potatoes. Where all the other conditions, such as soil and fertility were concerned, the growth was of unusual vigor, but a change of weather conditions, wrought a reversion of prospects. The weather which had been pleasant and warm during most of June and the first week in July, suddenly changed to a continued "rainy season" that extended with few interruptions nearly a month and then was followed by a few days intensely hot. As a result, the crop which would, from the changes of weather, have been below an average, commenced to rot, continuing until in some instances no attempts are to be made towards harvesting the crop.

Where digging has been gone through with, but very few sound potatoes are found.

If the yield is sufficient for home use it will do fully as well as is expected at the present. For some years, except in case of some special varieties, there has been a pretty general exemption from the potato rot until now, when it is almost alarmingly prevalent.

It will be a great blessing to farmers if some effectual means can be discovered for preventing this terrible and destructive disease. Other conditions that operate may prevent a full crop, but when a crop is diminished by rot, it is discouraging to the farmer. The very early crop this season was not affected by rot, nor were potatoes that were dug early and put in cool cellars.

WM. H. YEOMANS.

Columbia, Conn.

To the Editor of the Maryland Farmer.

ON THE CATERPILLAR.

BY MRS. JOHN GREEN.

I think I told you that John and I had moved into the country last spring.

Well, when we went everything was looking just lovely—so bright and fresh and green. Of course we had to make a garden; so we took all our books and read how we ought to begin. We got a man to dig the ground up for us, as that was most too hard work for John.

We planted onions, beans, peas and tomatoes. They did very well—because we could weed and kill the bugs that came on them. But our trees got full of caterpillars, and they ate all the leaves off.

Well, one day, I read that if you take a good sized sod and put it in the crotch of the trees—the lowest down crotch—that the caterpillars would take French leave. So I went to work and got sods in all of our trees before John came home; and

when he did come, he wanted to know if I was crazy.

I asked him, Why?

He said he should think I was, by the way I had made our trees look.

So I told him it was to drive away the caterpillars; and he said he should think so. And he went to work to take them all out.

I wanted them to remain; but he said "No!"

So I told him some of the trees were mine, and he must not take them out.

He said, "Well, I will let you have this one, and that one." The very worst ones there were for caterpillars, and woman-like, I said "All right."

He said he would burn them out, but I told him that would spoil the looks of the trees.

He laughed and said, "No more than that great sod of earth and your caterpillars."

Well, we agreed to say no more, and that night, after the caterpillars had all got home, as John said, he went and burnt them out; and in the morning how he did laugh at me because mine had not gone.

A couple of days after I took him out to see my trees, and he says, "Well, I declare; they have gone, who would have thought it." And sure enough there was not one to be seen. In his trees, however, they had begun to build their nests again, and he says, "Well, I guess dirt is the thing after all. I guess you was not crazy."

My sods are in the trees yet, and I am going to keep them there as long as there is a worm. I just thought it might be of some comfort to your many readers to know how easy a thing it is to get rid of them. Try it, all of you unbelievers. It will not kill your trees, nor hurt you.

Subscribe to the MARYLAND FARMER with a premium, only \$1.00 per year.

To the Editor of the Maryland Farmer.

BALTIMORE AND ITS MELONS.

The largest market for melons in this country is the city of Baltimore. From the first of August until the last of September the Patapsco river and the inner basin or harbor, is a forest of masts. It is, so to speak, alive with boats of all sizes and kinds, each of them carrying from two to ten thousand melons. The concourse of buyers and sellers are continuously going to and fro. The scene at the wharfs becomes picturesque in the extreme. Here we find boats that are being unloaded, and at the same time wagons being loaded, carrying these melons to the cars, where they are sent all over the country. Most of them go to the North and West, but a great many find

their way to the eastern markets and not a few to the far away Canadian homes. Some, and by far the most of them, are found to weigh from 50 to 60 pounds each, fully as much as a man would want to eat at once.

The first melons we get in the season come about the last of June; they are brought from the far South. Our own Anne Arundel county gives us some of the very best in the market. We can hear the street Arabs, now while we write, crying through our streets, "Here is your water melons, red to the rind." It is indeed a very refreshing fruit; but it takes the colored people to appreciate it in all its glory. How their eyes do shine as they look over a quarter of a melon rind!

Baltimore County.

E. M.

THE KITCHEN.

RECIPES.

BY AZILE.

Sweet Pickled Tomatoes.

Fourteen pounds of green tomatoes cut. Soak in salted water about ten hours.

Drain thoroughly, pressing them slightly.

Heat boiling hot two quarts of vinegar in which is dissolved two pounds of sugar.

Pour this over the tomatoes and let stand a day and night.

Then drain off, heat again and pour over the tomatoes and let stand a day and night.

This should be done about three times.

Then boil all together about 20 min's.

Add an ounce each of such spices as you desire, such as cloves, cinnamon, mace, allspice, unground.

Keep the tomatoes under the syrup and you have sweet pickles for a year, or more.

Cantaloupe Pickles.

7 lbs. green cantaloupe.

3 " sugar.

1 pt. vinegar.

Cloves, allspice and mace to suit.

Cut the cantaloupes in slices about half an inch thick, and boil in a very small quantity of water until clean and tender.

Take out the fruit.

Add the sugar and vinegar, and make a syrup.

Put in the fruit with the spices and let it boil a few minutes.

Slaw.

Cut a head of hard white cabbage into very fine shavings.

For two quarts of the cabbage take three eggs and beat them well.

Stir into 1½ tumblers of vinegar, 2 tablespoonfuls loaf sugar, 1 tablespoonful

olive oil, 1 tablespoonful thick, sweet cream, 1 large teaspoonful of mustard, salt and pepper to taste.

Mix all this with the eggs and put on the fire. When hot add the cabbage.

Stew until thoroughly hot, which will only require 4 or 5 minutes.

Toss up from the bottom. Take off and let it become perfectly cold.

Chocolate Caramels.

4 cups of molasses.

2 " brown sugar.

2 " cream.

1 pound of chocolate.

Butter twice the size of an egg.

Beat all together and then boil until it thickens when dropped into cold water.

Pour into a well buttered pan and when almost cold, cut into small squares.

THE FAIRS.

STATE FAIR—EASTON.

This was one of the most important Fairs of the year. The weather was unexceptional and the hosts of attendants seemed to enjoy the occasion.

E. L. F. Hardcastle took all the premiums in Southdowns. F. Carroll Goldsborough took all the premiums for Oxforddowns and sweepstakes for Ram any age or breed; also, sweepstakes for Sow.

Col. Edward Lloyd, sweepstakes premium for best display of beef cattle. Dr. J. C. Earle, for best display of dairy cattle.

The classes of horses, mules, poultry, &c. were well filled and the general display of agricultural implements was excellent. We must not forget, also, the display of woman's handiwork which was attractive beyond precedent.

We notice that A. B. Farquhar supplied an engine, and had his agricultural implements in operation on the grounds.

Such a Fair as this one is a moral influence and an educator for the rising generation, and the young people of our farming homes should make it a season for posting themselves in all the departments relating to farm life.

Kent County Fair.

This Fair came off on the same days of the State Fair at Easton, which undoubtedly had some influence upon both the exhibits and attendance. The management of these counties should endeavor to avoid this collision of interests, as both must suffer somewhat from the present arrangement. The Fair, however, was a splendid success in all respects, the exhibits in every department were excellent, the attendance large, and the financial outcome a decided success.

Maryland Horticultural Society.

For a series of years, this Society has suffered from the prevalence of disagreeable, stormy weather during their annual exhibitions. This year, however, it was worse than any previous experience, in a continuance of bad weather. The exhibition was a very fine one, bringing out many rare and beautiful plants and flowers, and fine collections of fruits and vegetables. Such an exhibition deserves universal patronage.

Fairs to Come.

Frederick Fair,	-	Oct. 11-14
Washington Co. Fair,	-	" 18-21
Harford Co. Fair,	-	" 11-14
Virginia State Fair,	-	" 26-28